THE CHINESE REVOLT.

From a file of Hong Kong papers to the 24th of March we copy the annexed articles respecting the formidable revolt now spreading through the Chinese Empire. The first is a summary account (from the China Mail) of the rise and progress of the rebellion; the second, from the same paper, a copy of the Emperor's edict on the subject of the revolt.

FROM THE CHINA MAIL OF MARCH 24.

The present rebellious movement we can even not from our limited knowledge, form no just estimate of; and until lately most people considered it a disturbance originating with a mere band of marauders, having no obect in view beyond the plunder and license of a day. Until very recently, the sum of what authentic information we possessed did not warrant us in coming to any other conclusion. Such bands had, since the days of the great Coxings, been of frequent appearance in one part or other of the Emperor's vast dominions, and of late years they had been remarkably troublesome in the province of Kwang-tung, [Canton,] directing their energies chiefly to pawnbrokers' shops, (often the banking-houses of Cums,) and even to the Government treasuries. We can call to mind several gang robberies of this nature, it which the private residences and public treasuries of mandarins were most effectually emptied. Hardly less frequent were the instances of obnoxious mandarins receiving terrible retribution at the hands of freebooters; who thus gave to their main object of plunder a sort of meretricious popularity that served them in good stead. Other cases there were too of large bodies of men, become formidable by 's spoils of the sea, landing on the coast. taking poss ion of walled towns, and holding them to an so completely, at one season, from these disorders, was a tive commerce paralyzed, that in the fertile f Heinan the crops of grain and sugar lay rotting fields, the customary vessels for their transport occupanting idle through in the fiel having b

h low beginnings it is not unlikely that the From orement may have arisen: the transition is easy ther to a rebel, and from a rebel to a hero, and a patriot. Many or most were members of the Triad Society; and in this association a successful leader might find the machinery of a political revolution ready to his land. The professed object of this society is to unseat the Tartar usurper and place a Chinese monarch on the throne; let there be added to this an infusion of religious cuthusiasm, and we have then the two grand requirements of a successful opposition to constituted au-thority, which nothing but the radical soundness and healthness of the established order of things is likely to withstand. And this soundness and healthiness ar

For a long time the rebels seem to have confined them selves to a comparatively remote part of the province of Kwang-si, and to have contented themselves with levying contributions in money from the towns and villages through which they passed; but two or three victories over the wretched levies sent to oppose them infused new life and vigor into their movements; and, having passed the natural mountainous barrier which separates Kwang-si and the two adjoining provinces from the rest of China Pro per, we find them passing with great rapidity through the provinces on the other side of this barrier towards the ancient capital of the empire, and exhibiting a unity of design and a tenacity of purpose that betoken the presence among them of a master spirit. And the most no-vel feature of their progress is the display of an icono-clastic zeal in strange contrast to the usual Chinese in-difference on such subjects; not to be accounted for by any supposed design to re-establish the monotheism, which China, in common with all other nations, in the earlier and purer days of its national existence no doubt possessed; nor by any idolatrous association that attaches to the present dynasty; for the image worship of China was prevalent long before its votaries were compelled to wear tails. The only way in which it can be explained is, by supposing the chief himself to have attained some knowledge of the religion of the West, either from books

ers and advisers some professors of that religion.

Our latest accounts from Shanghai, mention it as probable that before another packet can be dispatched Nankin may be no longer garrisoned by the Emperor's troops the greatest excitement prevails among the Chinese offi-cials; and the most urgent requisitions, are made for troops, ships, and military stores. To men who have so lately traversed about seven hundred miles of country, presenting many natural obstructions, the distance of some 100 to 150 more from Nankin to Shanghai, and that if they please on the fair stream of a broad navigable river, is but a step. So formidable a force was never in our neighborhood before, and though it is probably not their design, as it cannot be their true policy, to molest foreigners, it certainly behaves us to observe passing th a very watchful eye, and to fail in no reasonable precaution.

Hu-pih, mentioned in the following Imperial Edict, is situated in lat. 30° 40' north, and long. 114° east, on the potentiary on this subject.' banks of the great river Yang-tsz-Kiang, in the centre of China proper, and the place from which it is the easiest to keep open a communication with the rest of the provinces. This city, in conjunction with Hang-yang-foo, lying on the opposite side of the river, forms the most populous and frequented portion of China; and, in addition to the shipping before them, one of the largest assemblaces of houses and vessels inhabitants sailors and skinpers, to be found any where in the world. London and Yedo alone can compete with it. The number of vessels of the largest size in 1845, according to the statement of a Catholic Missionary residing there, exceeded 10,000, while the multitude of small craft moving about was much greater. The river is here nearly five hundred miles from the sea, yet it is three miles broad, and deep enough for ships of the largest size. -Eds. Nat. Intel.

EDICT OF THE EMPEROR.

To-day (29th January) a memorial was received from Commissioner Sü, stating that the Rebels had captured the provincial city Wu-chang, [the capital of Hu-pih pro-We cannot express our indignation. Heang the General, fought with the Rebels on the east rd of the city, and was victorious; but the westward o the city is level with the lake, and the Wang-chang and other gates are near the mighty river, (Yang-tez-kinng.) The Rebels (took advantage of this,) and dug a mine, and on the 4th day of this moon (12th January) some underground explosion took place, and thus the garrison was scattered and the provincial city Wu-chang was taken by

According to a former memorial of Sii, it was stated tha Wu-chang was able to withstand a siege; and only a few days afterwards he has to report that Wu-chang has been taken by the Rebels. Does he not know that in military affairs there is a difference between matters that may be postponed and those which demand instant action? His memorial is as the thoughts of a man in a dream. Be tween Chang-sha and Hu-pih Su tarried on his way Hisng-ying, who is the Commander-in-chief, though he arrived in time to obtain a victory, yet he could not at the same time attack the strong position of the Rebels, and so utterly rout them. He also is slow in the business. and there is no excuse for either of them. This is th time to extirpate the Rebels, and if the Commissioner Sü and General Hiang-ying were heavily punished, it would only deliver them out of their difficulties; therefore the Governor-Generalship of the Two Kwang and the honor of the double-eyed peacock feather are to be taken away from Su, but he is to retain the title of High Commis sioner, and of Acting Governor General of Hu-Kwang General Hisng ying is degraded, but he is to continue in the performance of his duties until his future merits are

The provincial city Wu-chang is the residence of the or and other high officers; how suddenly was it taken by the Rebels, and how great is our sympathy for the distress it endures! We repent that we did not employ the right persons, and that our people have not been delivered from this wicked horde. The trouble of the South gives Us no rest by night, and deprives us of appetite. We have already appointed Lub Kien-ying (Governor General of the Two Kiang) and Ke-shen to be High Commissioners, each to lead a strong army for the extirpation of the Rebels; and also commanded Shuhingah, the Governor-General of Shen-si and Kan-sub, and Yu-sui, the General of Sz'chuen, to proceed to Hu-pih and Hu nan and extirpate the Rebels with their united forces. We rely on their acting with one heart, and allowing no territory to be destroyed by the Rebels, and so restore peace to the country. Let them not be slow in what they do so as to bring themselves into trouble. As to the officers of the provincial city of Wu-chang,

We direct Su to present a true account of them. Obey this, The loss of life at Wu-chang foo is said to have been very great, and the captors were especially bent on demolishing official residences. Temples with their idols are also said to have been generally destroyed.

LATEST FROM CHINA.

Hong Kong, March 28.—The mail of the 24th of anuary arrived on the 11th instant, and that of the 8th of January on the 16th instant.

The intelligence we communicated last mail, the 11th instant, regarding the rebillion in the north, was fully confirmed on the receipt of advices of the 3d from Shanghai on the 12th instant, and, as we expected, her Majesty's Plenipotentiary, Sir George Bonnan, left this for Shaughai on the 18th instant, in her Majesty's steamer Hermes, then under orders to proceed to the Straits, but Hermes, then under orders to proceed to the Strats, but detained for this special service. It appears that application had been made by the Viceroy of Soochau to the English Consul at Shanghai to co-operate against the rebel force for the protection of Nankin. The rapid advance of the rebels had spread consternation and alarm through that capital and other wealthy cities, and the Imperial officials seemed entirely paralyzed and powerless. Our latest advices, of the 20th, from Shanghai, report the rebel forces investing Nankin, which it was expected would fall, and it is further stated that delegated expected would fall; and it is further stated that dele-gates had been sent from Soochau to the rebel leaders, offering a large sum to secure that wealthy city from molestation and plunder. There are also reports that a por-tion of the rebel force had proceeded north. The native bankers and wealthy people were removing their families and treasure into the country, and goods had been sent from Soochau to Shanghai for safety.

At Shanghai there was a general panic; bankers' and nerchants' houses were shut up, and an entire stoppage trade. Money was so scarce that the duties of exports had to be arranged by giving security in bills and other

property to the consul.

The naval force that must now be off Shanghai is calculated to restore confidence in that vicinity, and if the rebels proceed north, and do not delay round Nankin and the neighboring country, internal trade may be resumed sooner than the present state of affairs would lead one

o expect.

Her Majesty's steamer Salamander had left Amoy for Her Majesty's steamer Rattler was detail at Amoy, having struck a sunken rock, but had sustained no serious damage. The American Minister has proeeded north in the United States steamer Susquehe The French steamer Cassini has also gone north.

All is quiet at Canton; but there is an uneasy feeling in the city, which probably may be attributed to the suc-cess of the rebels in the north. We have had rather a novel and extraordinary scene acted at Canton—the French Minister sending up the French corvette Capriciouse to Whampoa and landing a body of marines in the small garden at Canton to erect a flag-staff there against the wishes and protest of the community.

The Foreign Consuls at Shanghai Solicited for Assistance. The following is an extract from a translation of the

petition for assistance which has been addressed to the Foreign Consuls at Shanghai : "Woo, imperially appointed Provincial Judge, Intendant of Circuit for Soochau, King, and Za-Chang, &c.,

sends this notification : " I, the Intendant, have just received a communication from the Governor, in reply to a certain statement of mine sent up to him. In my letter I had said that the war steamers of your honorable nation had not yet arrived at Shanghai, but it was arranged that within the first decade of the present moon they should be here. I also stated that only one ship of war belonging to the great English nation was keeping guard at Shanghai, which was not sufficient to repress and exterminate the

rebels. To all which the Governor replied as follows: "It appears that the rebels, having already arrived at Kenkrang and Ghankking, have dispersed themselves in va-rious directions, causing disturbances. All the trading fessels anchored at the towns and markets along the banks of the anchored at the towns and markets along the banks of the Yang-tse-Kiang have been taken possession of by the rebels, and, although their force has been attacked and routed by our grand army from Honan and Keangsee, yet the main body of the rebels having embarked on board of these vessels have pushed on in an easterly direction, and, though our troops have arrested their progress at successive stages, yet, on account of the breadth of the river, they could not be effectually stopped. Our grand army, from various quarters, coming along by land, could not be instantly assembled, and our vessels of war could not closely follow and prevent the progress of the enemy, so that the rebel force have become more and

of the enemy, so that the recei force have become more and more daring and irrepressible.'

"The 'lochar' sent up by the Intendant of Shanghai, al-though successful in various encounters, after all were found to be unequal to the exigency of the occasion, and being few in number, could not resist the many, so that at present the rebel vessels have arrived before Nankin, and the city is in the greatest danger. If we do not attack them on the first moment of their arrival, we shall find it difficult to prevent their spreading themselves in all directions.

"Let the said Intendant of Circuit again consult with the

"Let the said Intendant of Circuit again consult with the Consuls of the different nations, and request immediately to implore the ships of war now keeping guard at Shanghai to come forward and attack the rebels, and, further, to request the war steamers which are expected to arrive successively to come on and unite in attacking and exterminating these banditti; thus extirpating these vile enemies of the Chinese empire. Should they do this, not only will his Majesty the Emperor be sensible of the obligation, but the officers and people will be excessively grateful for the favor; and, when all parties together enjoy peace and tranquillity, they will be mutually ties together enjoy peace and tranquillity, they will be mutually beneficial to each other, following their various occupations without disturbance; but, if we have to wait till the grand army advances eastward to unite in extern

"The above communication having reached me, the Intendant of Circuit, I have considered that the various provinces of Honan, Hooput, Keangse, Guamtrung, and Keanguan, are all places with which Shanghai has commercial transactions, and that from the time that the re-bels have spread themselves from Keangse to Honan a year has elapsed, after which they invaded Hoopit, Hankhow, and some other marts of commerce have also been disturbed by them, or that merchants are arrested in their course and dare not move. Now the rebels presume to move eastward down the stream of the Kiang, and disturb Nankin. If they be not speedily intercepted trade will be stopped, and the commercial intercourse between

China and foreign nations will be at an end. "Having just received the above communication from the Governor, it is incumbent on me to inform you, the honorable Consul, begging you to make inquiry into the case, and beg the ships of war which have already arrived at Shanghai, with the one stationed here for the defence of the port, to go forward immediately to Nankin, and act in conjunction with the 'lorchas' already there, exerting their united strength in attacking the rebels, swearing to exterminate these villanous banditti, to gratify the feelings of the people, and promote commercial intercourse. I also request that you, the honorable Consul, will write to expedite the arrival of those vessels of war that are expected, that they may go up successively to Nankin, and sweep away the remains of these vagabonds from the face of the earth, and thereby give tranquillity to the whole region. The officers and the people of China will be under great obligations to you, and I, the Intendant, will be exceedingly obliged. We, therefore, beg and pray of you to expedite the matter. A necessary communication "Hoenfung, 2 year, 2d moon, 7th doy. March 16, 1853."

Speculations upon the probable action of the British Government-Intervention on the part of England, France, and the United States suggested.

FROM THE LONDON TIMES OF MAY 17.

The intelligence-we receive from China, while it adds but little to the information recently laid before the readers of this journal, confirms in all important respects the apprehensions we ventured to express concerning this renarkable rebellion. It does not, indeed, seem to be definitely known that Nankin had fallen, as was lately reported, into the hands of the insurgents; but, if this event has not actually occurred, it is in the highest degree pro bable. No doubt exists respecting the progress of the rebel army, and, though many particulars of this revolu-tion are unfortunately obscure, we know for certain that the insurgents have traversed the Empire from the southwest to the northeast; that they have hitherto repulsed the Royal troops; that they have either captured, or are on the point of capturing, the city of Nankin; that they are menacing Pekin with a similar fate; and that, ac sording to all computable chances, they will succeed thus far in subverting the Government of China.

With these generalifacts, however, our knowledge ends; and, in the uncertainty hanging over all other particulars, t becomes exceedingly difficult to speculate on the con-sequences of the event. We are without any substantial ormation as to the origin or objects of the rebellion We cannot discover with any certainty whether it has been promoted for the recovery of any political rights, the maintenance of any dynastic claims, the removal of administrative abuses, or the establishment of any desirable institutions. We are unable to learn with what views it has been regarded by the general population of the Empire—whether the inhabitants of the more important provinces have been assenting, dissenting, or neu-tral; or what part has been taken by the more consider able local authorities. We do not even know what form of government or policy it is proposed to substitute for that 505 were farmers, being more than twelve times the num attacked. We can infer with tolerable safety that the ber of those of any other occupation except laborers, success of the insurgents will ultimately involve the pro-clamation of a new Sovereign; but there this event will be attended with any internal changes, or any modifica-tion of such external relations as the Chinese Empire has hitherto maintained, it is quite impossible to say. We

know that the existing Government of China is likely to

know that the existing Government of China is likely to be subverted in a civil war, but nothing more.

The relative positions of the belligerents were sketched at some length in the correspondence which we published yesterday. An ordinary map of the Chinese empire will show that it is irregularly bisected by a great river called the Yang-tse-Kiang, towards the mouth of which Nankin, the southern imperial capital, is situated. The rebels were masters of the whole course of this stream, and, as it was added, of the whole country to the south of it, excepting a portion of the scabbard. This is a point, however, of material importance, and on which the reports involve some contradiction. If the insurgents have not only overrun the provinces between the southern coast and the Yang-tse river, but have retained them in some kind of subjection or occupation, the fact would coast and the Yang-tse river, but have retained them in some kind of subjection or occupation, the fact would imply not only great strength on their part, but a considerable amount of popular support. For ourselves, we are inclined to look upon the report with some suspicion, both as opposed to the general probabilities of the case, and because we understand the Emperor to be still in receipt of revenue from those provinces which are thus assigned to the keeping of his enemies. Be this as it may, the army of the insurgents was undoubtedly on the advance; its right wing from Nankin, and its left from Vou-tchang or Woochung—the destination of the whole force being Pekin, the northern capital of the empire, and the residence of the Sovereign. The rebels were to be opposed by two imperial armies, directed against their and the residence of the Sovereign. The rebels were to be opposed by two imperial armies, directed against their right and left divisions respectively, and on the event of this collision depended the fate of the dynasty, and per-

haps the prospects of China.

In these prospects the interests of the British Empire are most materially concerned. In the first place, a large portion of our Indian revenue is derived from the sale of portion of our Indian revenue is derived from the sale of opium to the Chinese—a commerce which has hitherto been extensive, contraband, and profitable. The second of these conditions has already been touched upon by an Imperial edict legalizing the sale of opium; and thoughth is been opposed by the local authorities interested in maintaining existing practices, it will probably be carried out, since it is only as a popular measure that it was proposed. Whether this or any other arrangements of the country of the Moquis and Navajos, under the impression that the former tribe was the remaint of a lost colony of Weishmen. What he might have gathered relative to these people would undoubtedly have been of great advantage to the cause of ethnological science, had his career not been cut short by a fatal disease, contracted on his way up the Missouri river; but he would have been infinitely disaptionally in the expectation of finding any relationship thoughth is been opposed by the local authorities inthoughth is been opposed by the local authorities interested in maintaining existing practices, it will probably be carried out, since it is only as a popular measure
that it was proposed. Whether this or any other arrangement will permanently affect a trade depending upon the
personal propensities of the people may be a matter of
doubt; but there is no such uncertainty respecting the
doubt; but there is no such uncertainty respecting the
trade in tea. If the provinces producing this plant contrade in tea. If the provinces producing this plant continue to be as they now are, the scene of a ferocious

of Mooui until about this time a year ago; and therefore tinue to be, as they now are, the scene of a ferocious conflict, it is impossible to doubt that the cultivation and the exports of this staple must be greatly diminished; whereas our most recent financial theories have been based not only upon the maintenance, but upon the expanconflict, it is impossible to doubt that the cultivation and the exports of this staple must be greatly diminished; whereas our most recent financial theories have been what was published in 1848 must have been from hear-based not only upon the maintenance, but upon the expansibility of this very trade. The remission of the tea duties presumes both that the consumption of the article will increase in this country and the scene to have been fully credited, by the Ethnological Society, contains scarce a word of truth in a mass of migranges and the scene to have been fully credited, by the Ethnological Society, contains scarce a word of truth in a mass of migranges in the country and therefore what was published in 1848 must have been from hear-based not only upon the maintenance, but upon the expansion of the tea duties are the consumption of the article will increase in this country and therefore what was published in 1848 must have been from hear-based not only upon the maintenance, but upon the expansion of the tea duties are the consumption of the article whereas our most recent financial theories have been say and the statements of illiterate and unreliable persons. I pledge you that what has thus been published, and seems to have been fully credited, by the Ethnological Society, contains scarce a word of truth in a mass of migrantenance. thes presumes both that the consumption of the article will increase in this country, and that larger quantities of our own exports may possibly be taken by the Chinese. If, however, the empire at large and the tea districts in particular are distracted by civil war and revolution, it is evident that our anticipations in these respects are destined to disappointment. The supply of tea is more likely to fall off than to increase and it is not probable that a mand for European goods can be created at a period of internal disturbance.

some importance to determine whether we should be war-ranted in attempting to influence results by any interference of our own. That there are ample opportunities for such intervention, and that application, indeed, has been already made to us in this matter, will have been seen by the published reports. Although, moreover, the British force upon the spot is exceedingly small, yet such is the nature of the contest, and such the prestige of our arms, that a demonstration on our part might possibly affect the whole course of events, and, in fact, the insurgents have hitherto avoided the seacoast for the express pur-pose of escaping a collision with us. In the present state, however, of our information, it becomes impossible to form any opinion on a point like this, while there are all the notorious lessons of experience to dissuade us from

We cannot tell in the case before us on which side our interest or our duties may lie—whether the insurrection is justifiable or unjustifiable, promising or unpremising; whether the feelings of the people are involved in it or not, or whether its success would bring a change for the better or worse, or any change at all, in our own relations a prima facie alliance with the established Government and undoubtedly, if the rebellion were of the characte assigned to it by the imperial officers in their edicts, might be desirable that we should aid in the restoration order. But these are points on which we possess n satisfactory assurance, nor is it probable, we imagine that any thing will be attempted by the British force it those parts beyond the protection of British property. This property the rebels seem already well enough disposed to respect, nor has there, as far as we can leam, be any complaint alleged against them by British sabjects. A war steamer has been dispatched to Shanghai it aid of the small force already in that port, and the Freich and American navies are also represented on the spot. Per haps a concerted intervention of these authorities mighbe exercised to good purpose, but even the inconveniences likely to result from a state of chronic revolution in China would be far less burdensome than the obligations inseparably attaching to unnecessary interference with the affairs of others.

INTERESTING LEGAL DECISION.

A case has been recently decided in the United States The city of Wu-chang-foo, capital of the province of Hu-pih, mentioned in the following Imperial Edict, is with the worth in the most intense anxiety. I shall also, in conjunction with the worth in the most intense anxiety. I shall also, in conjunction with the worth in the most intense anxiety. I shall also, in conjunction with the worth intense anxiety. I shall also, in conjunction with the Wicerov of the province, address the English Plenity of the control of the province of the control o The Richmond "Mail" gives the points of the case as

The cause turned mainly upon the legal effect of letters written by the creditor to the debtor, urging the payment of a negotiable note, and asking the debtor to "remit the not as Major Emory states, to their living in underground money" and "forward the amount of the note." Upon the alleged faith of these letters the debtor deposited the money in bank notes in the mail, in a letter addressed to the creditor in Baltimore. The letter was lost and never came to the hands of the creditor.

to Baltimore, and kept there, promising to pay it in whole or in part before leaving. He failing to do this, the plaintiffs wrote him urgently for payment. He replied, stating that he had been to Richmond at the time the note fell due to pay it, but could not find it, and asking where it was To this relief. it was. To this plaintiffs replied, "your note is here, forward the amount and we will send your note to you." The defeadant also proved that the merchants in Essex were in the habit of remitting money to Baltimore by mail.

The plaintiff's counsel relied on a decision of the Court f Appeals of Virginia, reported in 3 Grattan's Reports, in which it was held, in a very similar case, that no proof of such local custom could be given to affect the creditor,

and that a letter directing the debtor "to remit money" die not authorize transmission by mail.

Chief Justice Taxer, in the present case, disapproved of that decision, and instructed the Jury that evidence might be given of such custom, and was proper, it being mewhat a question of commercial usage; that the Jury might, if they pleased, infer authority to remit by mai a this case; that if the creditor used language calculate

The Jury returned a verdict for the defendant,

tified in finding for the defendant.

The trains on the New York and New Haven road now com to a full stop before passing any bridge in which there draw. This is a safe regulation.—Bridgeport Farmer. The New Haven Register adds-

And passengers have already begun to find fault with it We heard a couple of gentlemen in a late train denouncing it as a provoking and useless arrangement! The Hartford Times responds-

They were right. There are two uscless arrangements They were right. There are two uscless arrangements in this matter—first, the draw-bridges themselves, and, secondly, the plan of coming to a full stop before each of them. The late excitement occasioned by the Norwalk accident is leading to some absard notions. In that case the company were whofly in fault. Passengers do not want many stops. Certainly they care not to sit and stare at nothing for a time, just because a draw-bridge is shead. But they want to be satisfied that such care has been themselves. that such care has been taken as to fully protect them, eve if the cars move over them without stopping.

Just as we predicted. The killing of forty-six person in an instant of time caused immense excitement, and is comparative'y forgotten. The least restraint imposed to prevent a similar calamity becomes irksome in two or three weeks. We trust, however, that the milroad company will not listen to the murmurers, but will keep up the wise precaution, for the sake of those who place so value upon their own lives, and whose death would be a loss to society .- New York Commercial Advertiser.

The Lunatic Asylum at Columbus, Obio, is now full, containing upwards of 500 patients. In fourteen years there have been admitted 2,116 patients, of which 1,038 were, discharged recovered. Of the number admitted, ber of those of any other occupation except laborers, of which class there were 160. The next highest on the which class there were 100. The next highest on the list is teachers, being 40. There were 24 clerks, 22 preachers, 21 tailors, 9 tawyers, 6 printers, 3 sea captains, 2 mosicians, 2 medical students, &c. Among the datases spirit-rappings is now the most frequent. THE PUEBLO AND NAVAJO INDIANS.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE. NAVAJO COURTRY, (NEW MEXICO,) MARCH 14, 1853

My attention has lately been called to sundry grav errors contained in the second volume of "Transactions of the American Ethnological Society," published in 1848, relative to the Pueblo and wild Indians who inhabit this immediate country. Being on the spot, where have had ample opportunity to understand much of the habits, progress in civilization, and general character of these Indians, I shall venture to offer a few criticisms for the edification of your readers.

The Pueblo Indians of this Territory are certainly most remarkable race, and thus far all the efforts of ethnologists have signally failed to give their probable origin, or to conjecture to what great family of the American aborigines they are kindred. In habits semi-civilized, and in language totally diverse from the Toltec and Aztec stocks, with no trace of affinity to the wild tribes that surround them, they appear to be the relics of a once powerful nation, rapidly progressing downward to

It may be within the recollection of some of your read ers that Geo. F. Ruxton, Esq., an Englishman, and author of a very interesting work, entitled "Mexico and the Rocky Mountains," was stimulated by the accounts he had received in the valley of the Rio Grande, to pro-

misrepresentation.

What I particularly refer to here is to be found in an what I particularly refer to here is to be found in an article on "The Progress of Ethnology," by J. R. Bartlett, Esq., and at pages 15 to 19 inclusive of that article. Quotations are made from a work entitled "Scenes in the Rocky Mountains, &c., by a New Englander," from "Mr. Farnham's late work on California," from "Dr. Lyman's Report of the Navajos," and from statements made and believed by Baron Humboldt.

The approximation of the statements and the statements are statements and the statements are statements as the statements and the statements and the statements are statements as the statements and the statements are statements as the statements and the statements are statements as the statements are state

The amount of the statements made in reference to the Moquis, extracted from the above works, is that the Mawkeys, (Moquis,) or White Indians, live in a country well watered and fertile, in dwellings excavated in the hill sides and the solid rock; that they raise great numbers of horses and cattle; that they have many of the arts and comforts of civilized life; spin and weave, make butter and cheese, with many of the luxuries known to civilized nations; that their features compare with those of Europeans, with a fair complexion and graceful forms; that they have light flaxen hair, blue eyes, and skins of the most delicate whiteness. Some of these Mawkeys, as they are called, are described as wearing shoes and stockings, of which is the same as the Casas Grandes on the banks o

the Gila," are alluded to.

In reference to the Navajos, it is stated by the authors mentioned above "that they possess a civilization of their own; that they live in houses built of stone; that they raise cattle as well as horses and sheep; make butter and cheese and spin and weave; that their government is in strict accordance with the welfare of the whole community; dishonesty is held in check by suitable regula munity; dishonesty is held in check by suitable regula-tions; industry is encouraged by general consent, and hospitality by common practice; that the Navaje country is shut in by high mountains, inaccessible except by limited passes through narrow defiles," &c. Mr. Farn-ham speaks of the Navajos as being the most civilized of all the wild Indians of North America. "Their exten-sive cultivation of maise and all kinds of vegetables; their rearing of large droves of magnificent horses, equal to the first horses of the United States in appearance and value,

&c. are also noticed.

Baron Humboldt believed "that in the Navajos and Moquis we see the descendants of the same race of Indians which Cortez and the Spanish conquerors found in Mexico in a semi-civilized state.'

Mr. Bartlett, the writer of this article on the "Progress of Ethnology," remarks that these accounts of the Moquis and Navajos might be considered fanciful, were they not corroborated by the statements of trappers and other persons who have visited them. Now, these statements are, in truth, nothing else than of the most fanciful and

The Moquis, or Moquinos, as they are more properly called, are in all respects a tribe of Indians scarcely distinguishable from the wild Indians, except in some peculiar habits of dress and a milder eye. Their complexion is dark and swarthy, the hair and eyes black, and in many approach to a white skin is known among them. entirely a mythical idea, and doubtless proceeded from the fact that among the Indians of the Pueblo of Zuni habitations, but to some cutaneous disease. Among the Moquinos there are, so far as I have been able to learn (and I have seen quite a number of them,) no Albinos The Indians of Moqui (their pueblo is situated 80 miles westward of Fort Defiance) are said correctly to subsist timore, for about \$700, payable at the Farmers' Bank of Virginia. Before it fell due Dun, the defendant, visited Baltimore, asked that his note might be ordered back from Richmond (whither it had been sent for collection) to Baltimore, and kept there, promising to pay it in the sent for collection of the sent for col Officers of the army who have visited them say they raise cotton in small quantities, of which they man ufacture cotton stuffs; but the culture of cotton has evi dently been introduced from the New Mexican settle ments. Their dress also is pretty correctly described by the writers from whom I have quoted above. Their country, instead of being well watered and fertile, is of the same character of all this great range of country, of limited fertility and scantily supplied with water either for domestic use or for irrigation. They do not live in dwel-lings excavated in the solid rock, but live in a village compactly built, the houses being like those of all the pueblo n New Mexico, of one or two stories, and entered from the flat-topped roof, the ascent being by ladders laid against the wall. These houses are constructed of stone and mud. They have none of the arts and comforts of civilized life, except by most remote approximation to such arts and comforts; they spin and weave very rudely, and no better then the Navajos, and certainly do not make either butter or cheese, and have none of the luxuto mislead the debtor, it was at his own risk; and that ries of civilized life. They do not wear shoes, though if the defendant Dun might reasonably have supposed from the circumstances that the plaintiffs intended to authorize transmission by mail, then the Jury would be jus-tified in finding for the defendant. houses are of very rude construction, and bear but slight resemblance to the "Casas Grandés," the ruins of which are found all over this country and upon the banks of the Gila. That they are, however, the descendants of the people who built the "Casas Grandes" I entertain no

In regard to the Navajos, I have this to say from my own observation and special inquiry—that they are a branch unquestionably of the great Apache tribe, which roams the most enterprising and formidable of all the In dians in or near to New Mexico. Their language is nearly the same as that of the Jicarilla Apaches, who live in the mountain ridges east of the Rio del Norte. It is true they cultivate the ground, but to a limited extent, not they califyste the ground, but to a limited extent, not enough so as to restrain them from occasional depreda-tions in winter upon the Pueblos and New Mexican set-tlements. They raise corn, pumpkins, and melons chiefly, and but little of wheat. They, in truth, raise horses and sheep, with a few cattle. They make blankets, some of them pretty in color and of a very durable quality, though this art may have been acquired from the New Mexicans of the Rio Grande. As warriors they certainly are not formidable—owing their existence and security to the rude and unfertile country to which they have evidently been driven by more powerful enemies. Instead of being peculiarly brave and daring, they owe their repute for prowess to the pusillanimity of the Mexicans of the valley of the Del Norte rather than to any particular bravery of their own. If they possess any "civilization of their own" I have yet to know it. They do not live in houses built of stone, but in caves, caverns, and fissures of the cliffs, or in the very rudest buts, hastily constructed of branches of cedar trees and of flat stones for roots. The raising of horses is peculiar to them, but of the smallest and most indifferent kind; and as to describing them as "magnificent horses," equal to the finest of the United States, that is simply untrue and preposterous. They never make butter and cheese, nor do I believe they know what such things are. As to government, they certainly aare none, being pre-eminently of the most democratic habits—rather mobocratic. The chiefs are simply men of influence by virtue of character, or wealth in horses and sheep, and are afraid to enforce a command or exert

any control over their respective bands. "The welfare | of the whole community" is a matter which is never en-1 any control over their respective bands. "The welfare of the whole community" is a matter which is never entertained by them, individually or collectively—their organization, if they have any, being the veriest rope of sand. Dishonesty is not held in check among them, but frequent cases occur of their stealing horses from each other, without fear of punishment from the chiefs or from the nation at large. No such thing as industry is known among them, and a more lawless, worthless tribe is not to be found in any portion of the United States. Hosp, tality may be observed among them, but it is as much us a white man's life is worth to be among them. much as a white man's life is worth to be among them except as a trader. It is a very erroneous idea that "the Navajo country is shut in by high mountains so as to be inaccessible to an enemy, except by limited passes through narrow defiles." Though rude and wild, their country is readily accessible by very tolerable roads, even into the canon of Chelley, their stronghold and main dependance. The gravest error, however, is that contained in Mr. Farnham's statement of "the Navajos being the most civilized of all the wild Indians of North America." From a most frequent and intimate assembles with these the a most frequent and intimate association with them the past fall and winter, I deem them to be among the most rude, least intelligent, and least civilized of all the tribes of Indians I have ever seen. Some trifling improvement has come from their frequent intercourse with the Mexico-Spanish population of the Rio Grande, but not to an extent worthy of particular remark.

More on this subject, perhaps, in a future letter.

CONDITIONAL LEGISLATION

The practice, unknown till recently, of passing a con ditional law to go into operation only in the event of its receiving the sanction of a majority of the constituency is a voluntary act of legislative self-stultification, and manifest cowardice. Our business is now not with its constitutionality, which is at least questionable, but we allude to it as discreditable testimony at once of the tendency of the times, and the ignoble and subservient spirit of those who pretend to be leaders and instructors, when they are only the slaves of the people. We are not abou to ask whether a Legislature has a right to half-make law, and then leave it to be finished by the public: but whether they do not feel ashamed of such an open con fession either of their incompetence or want of courage? He who has not sufficient confidence in himself to pass definitively upon the enactment of a law is not fit to be a legislator. In truth, he is not one by his own confes-sion, any more than a man is a baker who merely kneads the dough, and gets another one to bake it, and so make it into bread.

Perhaps this cringing to the power of numbers will be said to be not so much owing to the want of self-conceit in those who do it, of which they are supposed to have a plenty and to spare; or even of their want of daring, for it is generally thought they are reckless enough when it is for their own interest to be so. They dare some-times to do all that may become a man, and more too. No; this conduct, when one probes it to its motives, is not se ridiculous, timid, and self-stultifying as it may not se ridiculous, timid, and self-stultifying as it may seem when examined to the bottom; those who practice it will be found keen, crafty, and hardy enough; they are not to be justly twitted for a want of these. The trouble is, there is too much of them. These people are not chargeable with want of opinions of their own, and obstinate ones too, but of a determined purpose of imposing on those of the community. An apparent humble deference to the popular will, a stooping to conquer it, are among the new political arts called legislative. It was a similar vile sycophancy which induced the Democratic party in the State of Maine fifteen years ago to order by a legislative act its share of the famous surplus fund to be paid to the people of that Commonwealth. It was not returned to the pockets of the citizens as pretended, because it was never taken at all from some, and from ed, because it was never taken at all from some, and from no one in the same proportion as it was given to him. But the farce had its effect at the time, and no doubt has left its consequences, not for good, but evil, behind it.

Where this mongrel legislation just coming into fashion would have ended, had it not been for the check administered by Judge Prart, of New York, no one can venture to guess. But these checks now and then to great currents of opinion, which are always setting pretty strong one way or another, is at least a useful fillip to reflection, and a re-examination of the grounds of this curious hy-brid legislation, one-half by the representative, one-half by the constituent. An authority for it is certainly not found totidem verbis in any constitution, nor recommended by the precedent of much respectable usage. Should it become prevalent, the reference of a law to the final judgment of the popular voice for its validity will help to break down the noble, independent manhood of legislatures, and open a convenient door for the easy escape of a mean-spirited, time-serving, subservient member from the proper responsibility annexed to his office, which alone gives it any dignity. Without this, he is but a poor instrument and worthless tool.—Newark Daily Adv.

UTAH TERRITORY .- The Deseret News gives us som insight into the progress of the settlements in the Mor-mon region. From this source we learn that Palmyra contains one hundred families, the first house having been built in September last. It is surrounded by a fine farming region and has good water facilities. Springville has more than one hundred and thirty families, besides a grist mill and a saw-mill, a brass band, and a school for teachtown, and much crowded. Many new buildings are in progress; German and French schools are taught, and a dramatic association is in operation. A bridge across the stream at Provo, to replace one swept away by a spring flood, is in progress, besides a flouring mill; and a com-pany is turning the Crown river into its old channel, to prevent overflows. The town of Cedar, in Iron county, contains seventy men, about half being employed by the Deseret Iron Company. This place has a dam and water course, several furnaces, and a casting house. The town of Harmony, in the same county, has an iron foundry in rapid progress. Parordan, also in Iron county, is extensively engaged both in the lumber and iron trades. They have iron works there. Several other settlements in the iron region are named, all apparently quite flourishing.

THE TEXAS DEBT .- We learn from good authority that certain creditors of Texas, having consulted competent au-thority, and having been advised that inasmuch as the State of Texas unequivocally accepted the terms offered by the Congress of the United States, thereby ratifying the act of annexation, have determined to apply to the Federal Court for an injunction to estop the State of Texas from giving to the several railroad companies the public domain. It is well known that by the act of annexation the public domain of the late Republic of Texas nexation the public domain of the late Republic of Texas was set apart for the security and payment of the existing debt; and the question now is, shall the State of Texas contravene the spirit and design of the act of annexation, an act of the United States Congress. Our opinion is, that the State of Texas has no right to give away a foot of the public domain until the debt, for the payment of which it was set apart, is first paid. The republic domain is not the property of the State of Texas. public domain is not the property of the State of Texas. the act of annexation clearly sets forth that the domain shall remain a pledge for the payment of the debt, and not until its payment can the domain pass to the State. Hence the State of Texas possesses no title, and the result must be that the donces-the railroad companiescannot succeed to either a legal or equitable title thereto as long as the domain remains a subject of pledge, which must unquestionably be the case until it is relieved from duress.—New Orleans Bulletin.

EXTENSIVE CONFLAGRATION ON THE OTTAWA .- We regre to learn that last week the woods on the North Shore of the Ottowa, near the Grand Calumet Island, some sixty miles above the Bytown, having taken fire, the conflagra tion extended four miles over a wide tract of country, consuming, besides an immense amount of valuable tim-ber, a great number of the houses, barns, and other build ings of the settlers. Our information also states that many lives have fallen a sacrifice to the wide-spread calamity .- Montreal Herald, 25th instant

BELGIAN LAW OF DIVORCE

Some few years since a young Belgian lady, fresh from her convent education, appeared in society, captivated a young fellow-countryman with well-oiled hair and patent leather boots, and, after an acquaintance of a few weeks, married him. The happy pair sojourned, as is often the custom abroad, with the father and mother of the lady. The young wife was a gay lady, and her husband was quite as gay a lord. At every ball and party in the capital they were present: and, as married ladies are especially selected by continental gentlemen for what they call "advantion," the young wife, although she got no more of it than she liked, was honored with considerably more than pleased her husband. The latter remonstrated, the lady rebelled, and "my wife's mother," at solent atrona, supported her daughter. The husband settled the matter by putting on his hat and retiring to his own paternal mansion. The userial feud was now intense, and the conjugal couple were only of the same nimd touching one single subject—application to the tribunals for a diverce. This eather boots, and, after an acquaintance of a few weeks, single subject—application to the tribunals for a divorce. This was done; but the Belgian law will allow of no such annulling of a marriage contract until the angry parties have renewed their demand for a divorce once every year for three years. Our young couple nourished their wrath during this triesmial period of probation, thrice made the demand, and were duly period of probation, thrice made the demand, and were duly summoned last year to hear consent given that they who had been one should henceforth and forever remain two. From different sides of the court the married pair witnessed the untying of the knot; and, when they were free, they passed out of the common portal into the public street. Approximation fired friendship, and the gentleman offered his hand to the lady in token that there was no malice between them. Friendship had no sooner IIs his torch than he illumined the cinders on the childed sites of layer and the varies could will sell the sides. on the chilled altar of love, and the young couple walked to gether to their first married home, whence the husband ha never since permanently withdrawn.—Church and State Gaz.

THE RUINS OF PUBLICN AND NINEVEH.

Some five years ago public curiosity was aroused to a high degree by the starting accounts which reached is of the excavations on the site of ancient Nineveh.

This eager expectation became intensified by the wouldrous story gleaned from the two volumes afterwards published by that successful discoverer, whose various contributions to the British Museum have amply proved the value and truth of his narration. The tale, however, was but half told. At that time this singular exploration was a work well begun indeed, but prematurely suspended. Three years since it was renewed under brighter any pended. or auspiece, and with more efficient means, the detailed application and the remarkable results of which we have now before us, in the new publication entitled "Discoveries among the Ruins of Nineveh and Babylon," by A. H. LAYARD, M. P.; a work fresh from the press of G. P. Putnam & Co., New York.

nam & Co., New York.

This new volume, comprising the more recent discoveries of Mr. Layard, (ample and well illustrated as it is,) will be hailed with the greater delight when its superiority as a printed book is seen in comparison with its predecessor. This American edition is to all appearance a London book. We do not say that pains and labor were not well bestowed upon the former work, but there is a peculiar fascination about the paper and type of the new publication.

liar fascination about the paper and type of the new publication.

The former account of the Yexidis, or so-called Devil worshippers, will be remembered with interest. It seems that Mr. Layard, in returning from England to the field of his labors, again paid them a visit, the incidents of which form a very pleasant commencement to the earlier part of the narrative. The famous expedition of Xenophon and the Ten Thousand is brought forcibly to mind by the progress of the gifted traveller, whilst the identification of this memorable retreat is made an interesting object of his journey. The natural features of the country between the Black Sea and the Euphrates, and marked peculiarities of its wild clans and robber strongholds, now once more subdued to the sway of the Sultan, are faithfully described and illustrated; likewise the remarkable churches and tombs which there remain, some of them dating back to the twelfth century, and showing undoubted parentage to much of the European Gothic, as well as to the subsequent architectural structures of the Tartar conquerors of Asia Minor. Mr. Layard's peculiar relation to the British Museum (and indirectly to the Government) gave him every facility, while the advantage of previous visits to that region enabled him to avail himself of various opportunities which seldom fall to the lot of travellers in those unsettled provinces, where the constant feuds among the predatory hordes, and the loose nature of the dependency upon the Porte among the high officials, have given but few inducements for long sojourn.

We soon find our author, however, at his old labors among the ruins of that wondrous city, the excavation of which is the cherished object of his expedition. The interesting details of the successive developments we necessarily pass over to speak of some of the more marked results, among which the verification of the Scripture narrative, frequently in the minutest particulars, is an important feature.

The monuments of Nineveh, from well ascertained

feature.

The monuments of Nineveh, from well ascertained The monuments of Nineveh, from well ascertained dates, cannot be less than twenty-five centuries old. They have been buried since B. C. 606. Two hundred years later, when the Greeks under Xenophon passed by, its very site and name were lost, though the ruined mound at Nimroud was seen and described by their leader, little suspecting that it was the ruins of the mighty Nineveh which he then beheld. They were not, however, unknown to later Greek and Roman writers. Niebuhr found and described its mounds nearly a century are although partilater Greek and Roman writers. Niebuhr found and described its mounds nearly a century ago, although until 1843 a few bricks with their peculiar inscriptions were our only relics to tell of the glory that had been. It was Layard, who led Botta, the French local consul, to make at that time the first excavations at Kouyunjik, since far surpassed in their results by his own more extensive labors at Nimroud. It is now shown that our author has been so far successful as to obtain access into the very palace of Sennacherib, where the sculptured story of that melace of Sennacherib, where the sculptured story of that me-morable reign still remains along the walls. These in-scriptions are sufficiently uninjured to lead to the identi-fication of much which modern progress in deciphering the arrow-headed characters has enabled us to interpret, while enough still remains to provoke the learned to re-

newed efforts to the same end.

It was not, however, till 1851 that the mention of any actual event recorded in the Bible, and in profane histo ry, was detected on the monuments, thus removing all doubt as to the name of the king who raised them. The in number of the Royal Seals, and their impression in clay, is yet another triumph. These are accurately described; while the bronze shield and bells, the cauldrons of copper and instruments of iron, the glass vases, lenses, and, finally, the Royal Throne itself, (all of which have been disinterred by Mr. Layard,) are mentioned with great exactness as regards the precise localities in which they were found. The colossal human-headed bulls from these ruins have long been famous at the British Museum, and will now be enhanced in value by the new collection.

The story of the Jewish relics found at Babylon soon after the above is also full of interest, but we are com-pelled to defer all mention of these to some other occasion. In conclusion, however, we cannot refrain from re-iterating our heartfelt praise of this admirable contribution to the curiosities of our literature. In continuing our perusal we have been more and more impressed with the grandeur of these new discoveries, and deeply made to feel their infinite value in confirmation of scriptural prophecy .- Boston Transcript.

ABOUT WIGS

An article in a late Fraser's Magazine treats of wigs with some humor and intelligence:

" Many who now enjoy these convenient appendages in uninterrupted tranquillity have no knowledge of the fact that at one period they were thought directly antagonistic to the existence of Christianity. St. Jerome and Tertul-lian hurled thunderbolts at them, the latter insisting that 'all personal disguise is adultery before God,' and when such reasoning failed, suggested the hair used might come from the head of one already damned! This, however, was not such a clever stroke as that dealt by Clemens of Alexandria. That worthy informed the astounded wig-wearers that when they knelt at church to receive the blessing they must be good enough to recollect that the benediction remained on the wig, and did not pass through

"When Henry I. of England was in France, Serron, Bishop of Seez, told him that heaven was disgusted at the aspect of Christians in long hair, or wearing on manly heads locks that had perhaps come from woman's brows; that they were sons of Belial for so offending. The King that they were sons of Belial for so offending. The King looked grave. The Prelate insinuatingly invited the father of his people, who wore long, if not false looks, to set a worthy example. 'We'll think of it,' said the sovereign. 'No time like the present,' rejoined the prelate, who produced a pair of soissors from his episcopal sleeve, and advanced towards Henry, prepared to sweep off those honors which the monarch would fain have preserved. But what was the sceptre of the prince to the forces of the priest? The former meekly sat down at the entrance to his tent, while lighty Server climed him with the wilful descript while Bishop Serron clipped him with the skilful alsority of a Figaro. Noble after noble submitted to the same operation; and while these were being docked by the more dignified clergy, a host of inferior ecclesiastics passed through the ranks of the grinning soldiers, and cut off hair enough to have made the fortunes of all the perriwig-builders who rolled in gilded chariots during the palmy days of the 'Grand Monarque.' Under James II. wigs became stupendous in their archi-

exquisite combs in their ample pockets, with which, whether in the mall or in the route, in the private box, or engeged in the laborious work of 'making love,' they ever and anon combed their perukes, and rendered themselves and anon combed their perukes, and rendered themselves irresistible. Wisdom was even then thought to be under a wig. 'A full wig,' says Farquhar, in his 'Love and a Bottle,' (1698.) 'is as infallible a token of wit as the laurel'—an assertion which I should never think of disputing. Tillotson is the first of our clergy presented in wig, and that a mere substitute for the natural head of hair. and that a mere substitute for the natural head of hair.
'I can remember,' he says, in one of his sermons, 'since the wearing of the hair below the ears was looked upon as a sin of the first magnitude, and when ministers generally. to reprove the great sin of long hair, and if they saw any one in the congregation guilty in that kind, they would point them out particularly, and let fly at 'him with great and '."

HIGH-PRICED PICTURES.—At a recent sale in London of the Spanish collection of pictures owned by the inte Louis PRILIPPE, ex-King of the French, many of the works brought the highest prices. The portrait, by Velasquez, of the Minister Olivarez was sold for \$1,550. A portrait of Philip IV. of Spain, also said to be by Velasquez, copied from the celebrated original of the Madrid Museum, in the third or vague manner of the painter, sold for \$1,250. The finest Murillo in the collection was the much-injured canyass which once represented, in all the splender of color and expression, "St. Joseph and the Infant Christ," but, damaged as it was, it sold for \$2,200. The "Conception," in life size, though deprived in many places of its glazings, brought \$4,050. It is a composition in the second manner of Murillo. A smaller "Conception" by Murillo, in which the characteristics of the master were Murillo, in which the characteristics of the master were also distinguishable, was knocked down for \$1,350. The "Virgin and Child" brought \$7,750. Another "St. Joseph and Infant Christ," though not a favorable specimen of the master; brought \$1,500. A picture of "Jesus and St. John" on the banks of the Jordan brought \$3,800.

The "Conception," by Murillo, sold in Paris last year, brought over \$100,000. It was purchased by the French Government in the face of a strong competition.

[New York Evening Post.